

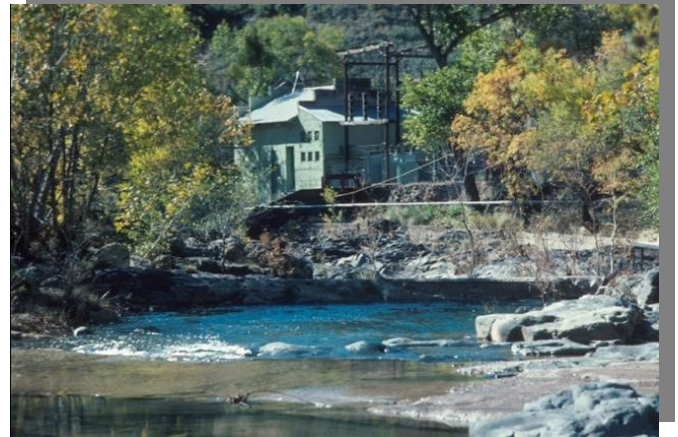


Fossil Creek Restoration & Childs-Irving Hydropower Decommissioning Project

Fast approaching is the beginning of the Childs-Irving power plant decommissioning process and preparation for restoring natural water flow to Fossil Creek. For nearly a century, 95% of the stream flow has been diverted from Fossil Creek within a 1/4 mile of its spring-based origin by a dam to supply two hydroelectric power plants at Irving and Childs.

In 1999, Arizona Public Service (APS) took a bold step and, in partnership with numerous conservation groups, agreed to "decommission" the Childs-Irving hydroelectric facilities. Arizona Public Service (APS) felt that this was a rare opportunity to return the area to its original, unique condition. APS will begin the process of removing hydroelectric facilities this fall and full flows will be returned to Fossil Creek by the end of 2004.

Prior to the return of full flows, research and monitoring will be on-going to help determine the effects of this unique opportunity to restore a free-flowing creek.



What's happening fall 2004:

Research & Monitoring

- Rate of travertine development
- Spring characterization, flow rates and physical locations
- Effects of travertine on aquatic ecosystems
- Stream hydrology and classification
- Surveys - fish, frogs, reptiles and birds
- Water quality; carbon and sediment deposition
- Recreation impacts and visitor use

Decommissioning Activities

- Construction of temporary bridge crossing at Irving Plant
- Removal of Fossil Creek diversions and Intake structures
- End of power generation and return of full flows to Fossil Creek by the end of Dec. 2004

Native Fish Restoration

- Fish barrier construction in lower Fossil Creek
- Removal of non-native fish in Fossil Creek
- Return of native fish

In Partnership:

Arizona Public Service (APS)
U.S. Forest Service
Northern Arizona University
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Federal Regulatory Commission
Salt River Project (SRP)
San Carlos Apache Nation
Yavapai Apache Nation
American Rivers
Northern Arizona Audubon Society
Center for Biodiversity
The Nature Conservancy

For more information:

www.verde.nau.edu/FossilCreekProject
www.aps.com/aps/CI/Default.html
www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino/projects/index.shtml